



# House of Representatives

## File No. 821

General Assembly

January Session, 2007

**(Reprint of File No. 637)**

House Bill No. 6060  
As Amended by House Amendment  
Schedule "A"

Approved by the Legislative Commissioner  
May 11, 2007

### **AN ACT CONCERNING DISRUPTION OF A FUNERAL.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1       Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2007*) (a) For the purposes of  
2       this section:

3       (1) "Funeral" means any ceremony or memorial service held in  
4       connection with the burial or cremation of an individual; and

5       (2) "Boundary of the location", with respect to a funeral, means (A)  
6       in the case of a funeral that is held at a cemetery, the property line of  
7       the cemetery; (B) in the case of a funeral that is held at a mortuary, the  
8       property line of the mortuary; (C) in the case of a funeral that is held at  
9       a house of worship, the property line of the house of worship; and (D)  
10      in the case of a funeral that is held at any other type of location, the  
11      reasonable property line of that location.

12      (b) With respect to any funeral, no individual may engage in an  
13      activity during the period beginning sixty minutes before and ending  
14      sixty minutes after such funeral, any part of which activity:

15 (1) (A) Takes place within the boundaries of the location of such  
16 funeral or takes place within one hundred fifty feet of the point of the  
17 intersection between (i) the boundary of the location of such funeral;  
18 and (ii) a road, pathway, or other route of ingress to or egress from the  
19 location of such funeral; and (B) includes the individual wilfully  
20 making or assisting in the making of any noise or diversion that is not  
21 part of such funeral and that disturbs or tends to disturb the peace or  
22 good order of such funeral with the intent of disturbing the peace or  
23 good order of that funeral; or

24 (2) (A) Is within three hundred feet of the boundary of the location  
25 of such funeral; and (B) includes the individual wilfully and without  
26 proper authorization impeding the ingress to or egress from such  
27 location with the intent to impede the ingress to or egress from such  
28 location.

29 (c) Any individual who violates any provision of this section shall  
30 be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2007	New section

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

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### **OFA Fiscal Note**

#### **State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 08 \$	FY 09 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal
Judicial Department (Probation); Correction, Dept.	GF - Potential Cost	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

#### **Municipal Impact:** None

#### **Explanation**

The bill establishes a new crime of disruption of a funeral. Any revenue from criminal fines imposed under the bill or marginal cost for incarceration and/or probation supervision in the community as a result of the bill would be minimal.

House Amendment "A" reduced the distance from a funeral that would constitute a violation of the bill. This could reduce the number of violations under the bill.

#### **The Out Years**

The annualized potential cost identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation. The potential revenue gain from criminal fines would remain constant into the future since fines are set by statute.

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 6060 (as amended by House "A")\******AN ACT CONCERNING DISRUPTION OF A FUNERAL.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits certain activities at certain locations from 60 minutes before to 60 minutes after a funeral, which is defined as a ceremony or memorial service connected to burying or cremating an individual. It subjects to punishment anyone who:

1. (a) willfully makes or assists in making a noise or diversion that is not part of the funeral, (b) intends to disturb the peace or good order of the funeral and actually does so, and (c) is within the "boundary of the location" of the funeral or within 150 feet of the intersection of the boundary and a road, pathway, or other entrance or exit from the location; or
2. (a) is within 300 feet of the boundary and (b) intentionally, willfully, and without authorization impedes the entrance or exit from the location.

The "boundary of the location" is the property line of a cemetery, mortuary, or house of worship or the reasonable property line of another location used for the funeral.

The bill makes this conduct a class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in prison, a fine of up to \$2,000, or both.

\*House Amendment "A" reduces, from 500 to 300 feet, the distance from the boundary where someone is prohibited from impeding entrance and exit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2007

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea    37    Nay   0    (04/11/2007)